

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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TAGS: TGEN, TECH, MX

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT US/MEX MIXED COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE

BILATERAL AND TECHNICIAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM -
PREPARATIONS FOR STAFF MEETINGS JANUARY 14-17

REF: MEXICO 9381, 9382

FOR SCIATT

1. THE FOLLOWING ASSIGNMENTS HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED: NSF
WILL CHAIR AGENDA IV JAN 15. SCI WILL CHAIR AGENDA I, II,
III JAN 16-17. REGARDING TECHNICIAN EXCHANGE SECTION
SCHEDULED JAN 14, NO IMMEDIATE SOLUTION SEEMS IMMINENT AS
TO ADEQUATE FUNDING AND/OR RESPONSIBLE PARTY AS ADMINISTRA-
TOR FOR TECHNICIAN EXCHANGES. DEPT STILL EXPLORING POSSI-
BILITIES.

2. FYI - IN THE EVENT NO SOLUTION IS POSSIBLE BY JAN 14
BELIEVE MEXICANS WILL SOLVE PROBLEM THEMSELVES BY NOT
SENDING SUBSEQUENT GROUPS TO US UNTIL FIRST GROUP OF
AMERICANS COME TO MEXICO, AND CONTINGENT THAT NEW OPERATIONS
PLAN BE PUT INTO EFFECT TO BRING US/MEXICAN TECHNICAL

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AGREEMENT IN ACCORD WITH OTHER WORLDWIDE

EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS, I.E., HOST COUNTRIES PAYS ALL EXPENSES IN HOST COUNTRY FOR EXCHANGEES. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH DE ALBA, SCIENTIFIC COUNSELOR, SOURCE OF ABOVE REPORTING OFFICER RECEIVED IMPRESSION MEXICO IS PREPARED TO PROCEED UNILATERALLY ON SOME ASPECTS TECHNICIAN EXCHANGE, I.E., MEXICANS MAY FUND SELECTED TECHNICIANS IN DIRECT ARRANGEMENTS WITH US INSTITUTIONS IN SPECIFIC AREAS.

3. MIXED COMMISSION MARCH 4-5

LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS WITH DE ALBA ALSO EXPLORED POSSIBILITIES OF GOM PRIORITIES IN MORE SELECTIVE AREAS WHICH WILL BE CONFIRMED BY CONACYT DURING DE ALBA CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS IN MEXICO. HE WILL ADVISE REPORTING OFFICER NEXT WEEK BY PHONE OF US AGENCIES GOM WISHES TO HAVE PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAM (REFTELS) TO ENABLE SCI TO RECEIVE SOME FEEDBACK PRIOR TO WORK GROUP JAN 16-17. DE ALBA ALSO WILL INFORM LEVEL OF MEXICAN PARTICIPANTS TO INSURE SCHEDULING APPROPRIATE LEVEL US. IT IS THE REPORTING OFFICERS IMPRESSION THAT GOM DESIRES MINIATURE AAAS IN MIXED COMMISSION IN AREAS OF FOOD AND NUTRITION, HEALTH, DEMOGRAPHY, TROPICAL ECOLOGY ETC. DE ALBA REALIZES THAT TOO MANY DIRECTORS OF RESPECTIVE GOM INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE UNWIELDLY AND APPROPRIATE SPOKESMAN FOR SAID INSTITUTIONS OR OTHERS WOULD BE MORE PRACTICAL WITH PAPERS SUBMITTED BEFOREHAND.

4. HIS PHILOSOPHY IS THAT IF ONLY NSF PROJECTS AND THE TECHNICIANS ARE DEALT WITH IT WOULD BE A VERY SHORT MIXED COMMISSION MEETING. MEXICAN DESIRE TO HAVE S&T COLLABORATION FIT IN WITH GOM PRIORITIES IS OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE. DEPT AND MEXICAN EMB SEE JAN MEETING AS STAFF LEVEL MEETING INVOLVING DEPT AND NSF, AS EXECUTIVE AGENT, TO DEFINE PARAMETERS AND ISSUES FOR MIXED COMMISSION MEETING IN MARCH WHICH MIGHT INVOLVE OTHER USG AGENCIES. SCI WOULD APPRECIATE FURTHER GUIDANCE AND SUGGESTIONS, ALSO WOULD APPRECIATE STATUS REPORT OF ALL EXISTING TECHNICIAN EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS GOM. DE ALBA HAS STATED THAT AN OPERATION PLAN WHEREBY EACH COUNTRY MEETS THEIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPENSES INCLUDING LODGING; LIVING EXPENSES; LOCAL TRANSPORTATION; TRAINING COURSES; LIFE, HEALTH, ACCIDENT INSURANCE, MAKES FOR MORE EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM. PLEASE ADVISE SUCCESS OF THIS OPERATION IN OTHER GOM INT'L PROGRAMS. RUSH

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